IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: PETER M. SIMONSON Confirmation no: 6218

Application No. 10/720,659 Examiner: Amareld Jr., Robert W.

Date Filed: November 24, 2003 Group: 3738

For: ARTIFICIAL FACET JOINT AND METHOD

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed January 27, 2006. A Petition for Extension of Time, along with authorization to charge the required fee, accompanies this Response.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims appear in the Claim Listing which begins on page 3

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8.

{WP320291;2} -1-